

tions of silver nitrate following a thorough cleansing of the canal. In a limited number of private patients I have found fulguration of decided value in this location. Occasionally amputation of the cervix will be required. In the presence of gonorrhoeal pus tubes treatment directed toward the cervix alone will be of little value as this source of reinfection must naturally be eradicated before a cure can be expected.

Gonorrhoeal endometritis is an uncommon condition and the use of the overworked curette following this diagnosis has resulted in much harm and has seldom been of benefit to the patient.

Finally permit me to emphasize the fact that radical surgical measures are frequently indicated in Neisser infections and that temporizing with injections, etc., is unjustifiable, merely resulting in the loss of time. It must be admitted that it is often impossible to positively assert that a gonorrhoea is cured, for notwithstanding the absence of objective and subjective symptoms some women apparently remain capable of infection as long as they live. This fact, however, should not discourage us in our attempts to conquer a most serious disease.

Thanks are due Dr. Agnes Walker and J. T. Boyer of the San Francisco Health Department and Dr. Maurice Heppner of the San Francisco Hospital for their valuable assistance in the examination and treatment of these cases.

Shreve Building.

Book Reviews

Materia Medica, Pharmacology, Therapeutics and Prescription Writing. For Students and Practitioners. By Walter A. Bastedo, Ph. G., M. D., Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine Columbia University. Second Edition, Reset. Octavo of 654 pages, illustrated. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company, 1918. Cloth, \$4.00 net.

Many workers recognize that the field of pharmacology has become so wide that it is now impossible for one person to speak authoritatively on all of its problems and this holds with double force with respect to the combined subjects of pharmacology and therapeutics. Most of us are looking to the future for a handbook of pharmacology in which the individual drugs shall be discussed by numerous conscientious workers who have devoted time to the drugs they discuss and would therefore be in a position to value the immense literature which has grown up. Until that time comes, we must rely upon general treatises written by one or two persons and such books must have their limitations.

The work of Bastedo is based on the lecture courses given at Columbia University. It is clearly and attractively written and holds one's attention. The publishers have enhanced its value by the use of clear type and proper spacing. The book is written by a clinician evidently for students who intend to enter the practice of medicine. Such students will find valuable hints and suggestions as to treatment and will learn the relation of pharmacology to therapeutics. It is distinctly a textbook, but a good one, hardly full enough for the general practitioner. The views expressed are up to date, but at times seem dogmatic, the reasons not always being given in detail. Some chapters might have been expanded with profit.

The reviewer believes that part of our present

failure in medicine is due to the fact that we have not always attempted to develop the logical or critical ability of our students and have made dogmatic statements, whereas students should be taught to criticize the evidence for their beliefs. Such a critical textbook in pharmacology is lacking. The work of Bastedo has been reprinted several times and has just been revised into a new edition. This would indicate its popularity.

A. C. C.

Postgraduate Medicine. Prevention and Treatment of Disease. By Augustus Caillé. Illustrated. N. Y.: Appleton, 1918.

Regarded from the viewpoint of a manual of treatment it is hardly fair to the author to characterize this somewhat sketchy though exhaustive volume as being superficial and therefore unsatisfactory. Rather should this work be read as a most interesting and valuably suggestive epitome of the thoughts on treatment by a man with a world of experience and a vast fund of resources. There is not a field of medicine that is not given recognition and not a mode of treatment that is not given critical notice and mention. A reading of this book will be sure to give one a number of valuable suggestions in any field that can be mentioned.

And yet, one feels that the author has written a book that should be regarded as a collection of the wisdom and experience of a wise and experienced medical man, and not a volume for reference in case of need. Thus the usefulness of Dr. Caillé's book is more in the nature of a postgraduate course in the treatment of disease, than a manual to be consulted when the diagnosis is determined but the treatment still in doubt. A further objection to the adoption of this work as a reference book might be raised from the point of view that nearly all that is taught in this book can be found in general text-books as well as in original sources. It would be a sad commentary on the amount of reading a medical man has done if he were to find much that was new or unfamiliar in all of the thousand pages of the text.

G. H. T.

Principles of Mental Hygiene. By Wm. A. White. Introduction by Smith Ely Jelliffe. N. Y.: Macmillan, 1917. Price \$2.00.

Now that the domain of the psychiatrist and alienist is no longer a field that is the peculiar property of the initiated few; now that medical men and women must reckon with the social variation from the normal as well as the physical variations; now that the public conscience is awake to the fact that there is a duty that is owed to those who are handicapped by inferior nervous or mental makeup, it is with genuine pleasure that such a book as this is welcomed. In language that is simple, clear, in a mode of exposition that is authoritative yet kindly, Professor White has given to the profession a volume that will open to many a delightful field in the medical world. Too many of our profession are neglectful of the social side of medicine. This may be through laziness, indifference or through lack of perception or of training, but this field can no longer be ignored. The study of our cases from the social aspect is as essential as that from any other point of view. Social problems are presented to the doctor more frequently than to any other, unless it be the spiritual advisor, whose place the doctor must so often fill. In this world of ours, conflict and adjustment, heredity and environment, stimulus and reaction, individual and herd relations, reason and instinct form the chief motives of our existences. Let us study these things; let us apply our knowledge to our daily round of cases; let us remember to treat the patient as well as the disease. This work is pecu-